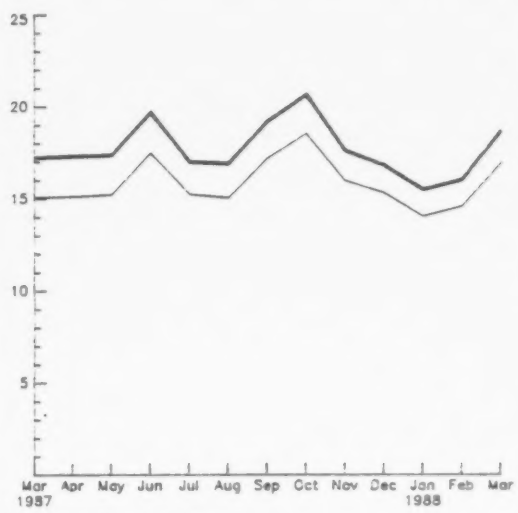
RUBBER MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION • 1400 K STREET, N.W. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 • (202) 682-4860

MONTHLY TIRE REPORT — MARCH 1988

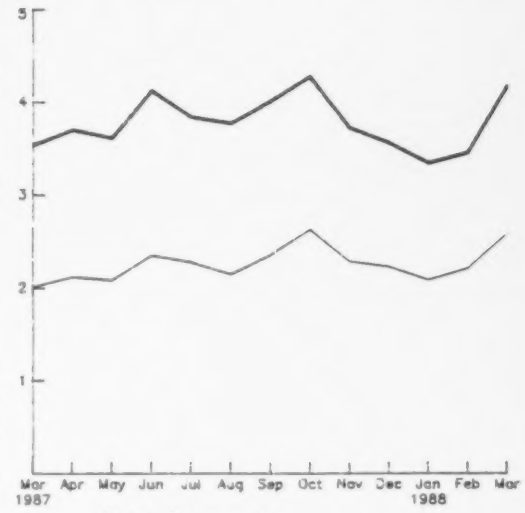
This report was compiled by the Rubber Manufacturers Association (RMA) and presents a monthly compilation of tire and inner tube shipments, production, exports, imports, and inventory. The actual industry data reported is adjusted to include estimates for non-participating companies. Figures presented represent 100% of the domestic U.S. tire market.

PASSENGER TIRE SHIPMENTS



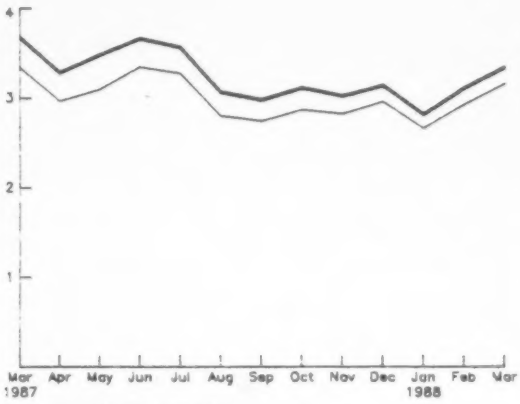
Figures in Millions of Units

TRUCK & BUS TIRE SHIPMENTS



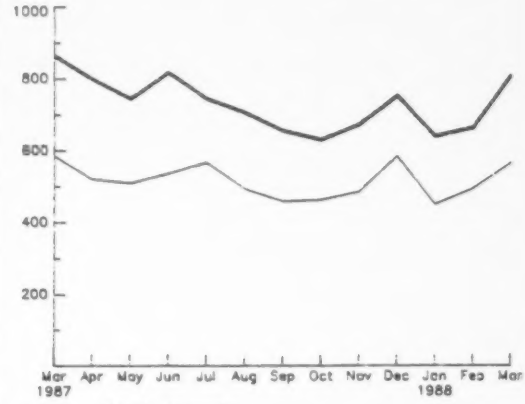
Figures in Millions of Units

PASSENGER TIRE IMPORTS



Figures in Millions of Units

TRUCK & BUS TIRE IMPORTS



Figures in Thousands of Units

Above are two sets of charts which highlight shipments and imports of both passenger and truck & bus tires.

The shipment charts show monthly volumes for total shipments and radial shipments for thirteen months running. The vertical distance between the two lines in each graph is the non-radial portion of the total shipments. March 1988 total shipments are up 8% from March 1987 for passenger tires and up 18% for truck and bus tires. The import charts show volume of imports of both passenger and truck and bus tires, as well as the portion of imports which are radial tires. From 1982 to 1987, passenger tire imports increased 127.7%, and truck and bus tire imports grew by 137.3%.

RMA MONTHLY TIRE & TUBE SHIPMENTS & PRODUCTION REPORT
(FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF UNITS)

ISSUED: 05/23/88

PASSENGER TIRES

		ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT	ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT RADIAL	REPLACE-MENT	REPLACE-MENT RADIAL	EXPORT	EXPORT RADIAL	TOTAL	TOTAL RADIAL	PRODUC-TION	PRODUC-TION RADIAL	ENDING INVENTORY	ENDING INVENTORY RADIAL
1987	JANUARY	4,838	4,081	10,494	9,327	369	316	15,701	13,724	13,940	12,074	29,387	25,778
	FEBRUARY	4,889	4,138	10,001	8,825	498	423	15,388	13,386	13,896	12,047	31,237	27,432
	MARCH	5,321	4,520	11,470	10,173	418	367	17,209	15,060	14,779	12,761	32,761	28,803
	PREV YTD	15,048	12,739	31,964	28,325	1,285	1,106	48,297	42,170	42,614	36,881	32,761	28,803
	APRIL	4,699	3,956	12,195	10,789	427	380	17,321	15,125	13,911	12,091	32,173	28,398
	MAY	4,687	3,955	12,218	10,871	470	406	17,375	15,232	13,484	11,861	32,556	28,834
	JUNE	4,472	3,800	14,703	13,242	533	454	19,707	17,496	13,709	12,049	30,503	27,036
	JULY	2,987	2,572	13,483	12,206	507	446	16,977	15,224	13,011	11,556	30,256	26,777
	AUGUST	3,709	3,168	12,701	11,427	481	434	16,891	15,030	13,877	12,466	30,477	27,175
	SEPTEMBER	4,328	3,698	14,339	13,019	541	477	19,209	17,193	14,017	12,497	29,217	26,164
	OCTOBER	5,038	4,267	15,045	13,771	570	502	20,654	18,540	15,605	14,008	27,665	24,882
	NOVEMBER	4,348	3,746	12,682	11,735	556	474	17,586	15,956	13,678	12,285	26,996	24,246
	DECEMBER	3,597	3,086	12,563	11,663	618	536	16,777	15,285	13,615	12,131	27,432	24,507
	PREV TOT	52,913	44,988	151,892	137,048	5,987	5,215	210,792	187,251	167,522	147,825	27,432	24,507
1988	JANUARY	4,040	3,428	10,648	9,920	775	672	15,463	14,019	14,386	12,994	29,893	26,835
	FEBRUARY	4,335	3,700	10,789	10,082	896	802	16,021	14,584	14,893	13,427	32,239	28,982
	MARCH	4,937	4,209	12,746	11,857	954	834	18,637	16,900	15,872	14,311	33,008	29,747
	CURR YTD	13,312	11,337	34,183	31,859	2,625	2,307	50,121	45,503	45,152	40,732	33,008	29,747
	APRIL												
	MAY												
	JUNE												
	JULY												
	AUGUST												
	SEPTEMBER												
	OCTOBER												
	NOVEMBER												
	DECEMBER												
	PREV MTH	13.9	13.8	18.1	17.6	6.5	4.0	16.3	15.9	6.6	6.6	2.4	2.6
	PREV/CURR	-7.2	-6.9	11.1	16.6	128.4	127.3	8.3	12.2	7.4	12.1	0.8	3.3
	YTD CHG	-11.5	-11.0	6.9	12.5	104.3	108.6	3.8	7.9	6.0	10.4	1.9	4.3

RMA MONTHLY TIRE & TUBE SHIPMENTS & PRODUCTION REPORT
(FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF UNITS)

ISSUED: 05/23/88

TRUCK AND BUS TIRES

		ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT	ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT RADIAL	REPLACE-MENT	REPLACE-MENT RADIAL	EXPORT	EXPORT RADIAL	TOTAL	TOTAL RADIAL	PRODUC-TION	PRODUC-TION RADIAL	ENDING INVENTORY	ENDING INVENTORY RADIAL
1987	JANUARY	643	453	2,387	1,242	121	86	3,151	1,781	2,939	1,604	6,936	3,996
	FEBRUARY	604	428	2,414	1,234	159	112	3,177	1,774	2,697	1,418	7,428	4,327
	MARCH	698	491	2,665	1,398	167	118	3,530	2,007	2,954	1,577	7,912	4,614
	PREV YTD	1,946	1,371	7,466	3,874	447	317	9,858	5,562	8,590	4,599	7,912	4,614
	APRIL	709	496	2,829	1,512	163	109	3,701	2,117	2,769	1,521	7,789	4,583
	MAY	713	501	2,731	1,463	162	111	3,606	2,076	3,498	2,304	7,756	4,603
	JUNE	673	450	3,281	1,772	168	124	4,122	2,346	2,839	1,607	7,369	4,449
	JULY	618	420	3,048	1,733	169	117	3,834	2,269	2,785	1,559	7,088	4,311
	AUGUST	607	419	2,981	1,591	176	130	3,765	2,140	2,846	1,612	7,024	4,385
	SEPTEMBER	641	444	3,178	1,767	190	141	4,009	2,351	3,187	1,826	7,017	4,437
	OCTOBER	740	521	3,322	1,955	211	152	4,272	2,628	3,351	1,897	6,874	4,270
	NOVEMBER	618	448	2,902	1,684	192	140	3,712	2,273	2,777	1,608	6,706	4,149
	DECEMBER	580	425	2,778	1,649	191	142	3,549	2,216	2,813	1,642	6,906	4,314
	PREV TOT	7,845	5,495	34,514	19,000	2,069	1,483	44,428	25,977	35,455	20,176	6,906	4,314
1988	JANUARY	673	485	2,413	1,400	246	189	3,332	2,075	2,959	1,770	7,154	4,412
	FEBRUARY	730	538	2,454	1,468	267	200	3,451	2,206	3,134	1,879	7,665	4,699
	MARCH	815	602	3,001	1,684	355	294	4,171	2,580	3,433	2,060	7,729	4,719
	CURR YTD	2,219	1,626	7,868	4,552	867	683	10,954	6,861	9,525	5,709	7,729	4,719
	APRIL												
	MAY												
	JUNE												
	JULY												
	AUGUST												
	SEPTEMBER												
	OCTOBER												
	NOVEMBER												
	DECEMBER												
	PREV MTH	11.7	11.9	22.3	14.7	32.9	46.8	20.9	16.9	9.5	9.6	0.8	0.4
	PREV/CURR	16.8	22.8	12.6	20.4	112.0	148.0	18.2	28.5	16.2	30.6	-2.3	2.3
	YTD CHG	14.0	18.6	5.4	17.5	94.0	115.5	11.1	23.4	10.9	24.1	1.2	6.9

RMA MONTHLY TIRE & TUBE SHIPMENTS & PRODUCTION REPORT
(FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF UNITS)

ISSUED: 05/23/88

MOBILE HOME TIRES

		ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT	ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT RADIAL	REPLACE-MENT	REPLACE-MENT RADIAL	EXPORT	EXPORT RADIAL	TOTAL	TOTAL RADIAL	PRODUC-TION	PRODUC-TION RADIAL	ENDING INVENTORY	ENDING INVENTORY RADIAL
1987	JANUARY	34		6				40		44		81	
	FEBRUARY	33		3				36		37		78	
	MARCH	61		15				76		35		58	
	PREV YTD	128		24				153		116		58	
	APRIL	66		9				74		51		40	
	MAY	76		8				84		74		40	
	JUNE	72		7				79		77		42	
	JULY	72		19				91		82		54	
	AUGUST	62		10				72		76		66	
	SEPTEMBER	72		7				79		67		53	
	OCTOBER	77		7				84		83		87	
	NOVEMBER	57		11				68		62		92	
	DECEMBER	39		5				45		47		95	
	PREV TOT	722		107				829		735		95	
1988	JANUARY	39		8				47		39		89	
	FEBRUARY	38		5				44		44		88	
	MARCH	64						64		62		92	
	CURR YTD	141		13				154		144		92	
	APRIL												
	MAY												
	JUNE												
	JULY												
	AUGUST												
	SEPTEMBER												
	OCTOBER												
	NOVEMBER												
	DECEMBER												
	PREV MTH	66.5		-96.6		-100.0		47.2		40.6		4.3	
	PREV/CURR	5.0		-98.9		-100.0		-16.0		77.4		60.0	
	YTD CHG	10.2		-46.8		-67.4		1.1		24.8		24.2	

RMA MONTHLY TIRE & TUBE SHIPMENTS & PRODUCTION REPORT
(FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF UNITS)

ISSUED: 05/23/88

TRACTOR IMPLEMENT TIRES

		ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT	ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT RADIAL	REPLACE-MENT	REPLACE-MENT RADIAL	EXPORT	EXPORT RADIAL	TOTAL	TOTAL RADIAL	PRODUC-TION	PRODUC-TION RADIAL	ENDING INVENTORY	ENDING INVENTORY RADIAL
1987	JANUARY	41	1	202	8	18	1	261	10	253	7	732	32
	FEBRUARY	46	3	223	8	18	1	287	12	246	8	706	29
	MARCH	46	2	220	9	24	1	291	12	267	10	701	27
	PREV YTD	133	7	645	25	60	2	839	34	766	25	701	27
	APRIL	51	3	261	8	20	1	332	12	262	10	645	26
	MAY	42	2	226	5	15	1	283	8	248	11	630	29
	JUNE	51	4	237	3	19	2	307	9	245	10	590	30
	JULY	55	4	235	2	14	1	304	7	234	8	540	31
	AUGUST	51	3	224	4	15		289	7	237	6	528	30
	SEPTEMBER	57	3	247	6	19	1	322	10	264	8	509	27
	OCTOBER	58	4	211	6	18	1	287	11	296	8	553	24
	NOVEMBER	48	2	186	6	23	1	257	10	249	7	599	21
	DECEMBER	50	3	185	8	25	1	260	12	255	9	640	18
	PREV TOT	595	34	2,658	73	226	11	3,480	119	3,054	101	640	18
1988	JANUARY	58	5	215	7	30	1	303	14	275	10	696	15
	FEBRUARY	51	3	253	10	26	1	330	14	271	13	669	15
	MARCH	66	6	286	12	28	1	380	19	315	15	646	12
	CURR YTD	175	13	754	29	84	3	1,013	46	860	38	646	12
	APRIL												
	MAY												
	JUNE												
	JULY												
	AUGUST												
	SEPTEMBER												
	OCTOBER												
	NOVEMBER												
	DECEMBER												
	PREV MTH	28.3	73.2	13.4	18.8	7.2	133.1	15.2	36.5	16.4	9.8	-3.5	-20.7
	PREV/CURR	42.4	126.6	30.0	37.3	15.7	108.2	30.8	60.1	18.2	54.6	-7.9	-55.9
	YTD CHG	31.1	96.2	16.8	15.3	40.8	78.2	20.8	35.1	12.4	52.9	-6.0	-52.3

RMA MONTHLY TIRE & TUBE SHIPMENTS & PRODUCTION REPORT
(FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF UNITS)

ISSUED: 05/23/88

INDUSTRIAL AND UTILITY TIRES

		ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT	ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT RADIAL	REPLACEMENT	REPLACEMENT RADIAL	EXPORT	EXPORT RADIAL	TOTAL	TOTAL RADIAL	PRODUCTION	PRODUCTION RADIAL	ENDING INVENTORY	ENDING INVENTORY RADIAL
1987	JANUARY	736	1	215	1	17		967	2	725	3	2,079	29
	FEBRUARY	715	1	175	2	15		905	3	768	5	1,998	30
	MARCH	740	1	179	2	25		944	2	829		1,911	28
	PREV YTD	2,192	2	568	5	57		2,816	8	2,322	8	1,911	28
	APRIL	758	1	185	3	24		966	4	768		1,724	17
	MAY	694	1	188	1	19		901	2	755	1	1,615	16
	JUNE	605		186	2	24	1	815	3	742	1	1,530	15
	JULY	337		125	2	25		488	3	517		1,524	15
	AUGUST	457		186	2	17		660	2	776		1,545	15
	SEPTEMBER	611		164	2	25		800	2	809		1,499	15
	OCTOBER	553		240	2	18		811	2	952		1,609	14
	NOVEMBER	498		183	1	15		696	1	793		1,651	14
	DECEMBER	455		163	2	25		643	2	766	1	1,761	16
	PREV TOT	7,160	4	2,189	22	249	2	9,598	29	9,202	12	1,761	16
1988	JANUARY	569		222	2	20		810	3	725	1	1,635	16
	FEBRUARY	583		212	2	20		814	2	762		1,539	15
	MARCH	666		173	2	36		874	2	816		1,417	14
	CURR YTD	1,817	1	606	5	75	1	2,499	7	2,303	1	1,417	14
	APRIL												
	MAY												
	JUNE												
	JULY												
	AUGUST												
	SEPTEMBER												
	OCTOBER												
	NOVEMBER												
	DECEMBER												
	PREV MTH	14.3	-27.1	-18.2	13.7	77.4	134.4	7.4	14.2	7.1	16000.0	-7.9	-5.3
	PREV/CURR	-10.1	-72.2	-3.1	3.7	42.5	30.2	-7.4	-14.1	-1.6	-50.5	-25.9	-49.3
	YTD CHG	-17.1	-66.8	6.7	6.5	33.4	80.4	-11.3	-11.5	-0.8	-83.8	-23.3	-48.1

RMA MONTHLY TIRE & TUBE SHIPMENTS & PRODUCTION REPORT
(FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF UNITS)

ISSUED: 05/23/88

INNER TUBES

		PASSENGER/ MOTORCYCLE		TRUCK & BUS		TRACTOR IMPLEMENT		INDUSTRIAL/ UTILITY	
		SHIPMENTS	PRODUCTN	SHIPMENTS	PRODUCTN	SHIPMENTS	PRODUCTN	SHIPMENTS	PRODUCTN
1987	JANUARY	472	563	1,150	1,009	174	165	184	98
	FEBRUARY	487	462	1,106	952	194	162	158	123
	MARCH	521	450	1,184	1,028	215	174	152	139
	PREV YTD	1,480	1,475	3,440	2,988	583	501	494	361
	APRIL	465	398	1,173	965	271	210	172	92
	MAY	456	390	1,144	929	229	220	154	118
	JUNE	559	466	1,403	993	283	254	198	119
	JULY	403	311	1,094	736	191	164	146	98
	AUGUST	470	600	1,112	1,207	239	364	166	130
	SEPTEMBER	600	529	1,364	1,041	295	270	172	112
	OCTOBER	589	468	1,380	929	238	216	165	115
	NOVEMBER	429	300	1,138	746	200	139	110	97
	DECEMBER	437	314	1,072	778	189	134	112	94
	PREV TOT	5,889	5,250	14,320	11,313	2,718	2,472	1,889	1,336
1988	JANUARY	443	324	1,105	825	213	187	212	111
	FEBRUARY	481	390	1,063	1,027	242	230	154	151
	MARCH	548	562	1,186	1,058	257	266	178	136
	CURR YTD	1,472	1,275	3,354	2,910	711	683	545	398
	APRIL								
	MAY								
	JUNE								
	JULY								
	AUGUST								
	SEPTEMBER								
	OCTOBER								
	NOVEMBER								
	DECEMBER								
	PREV MTH	14.0	44.2	11.6	3.0	6.1	15.8	16.0	-10.2
	PREV/CURR	5.3	24.9	0.2	3.0	19.5	52.8	17.1	-2.5
	YTD CHG	-0.5	-13.6	-2.5	-2.6	22.0	36.4	10.1	10.3

IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF TIRE AND INNER TUBES -- SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Report No. IM-145
(Units are rounded and expressed in thousands)

	TIRES									TUBES			
TSUSA NUMBERS:	772.5109	772.5112	772.5127	772.5129	772.5136	772.5138	772.5141	772.4500 772.4600	772.5000	772.6005	772.6010	772.6025	772.5900
	Pass. Radial	Pass. All Other	Light Truck Radial	Light Truck All Other	All Other Truck Radial	All Other Truck	Motor-cycle	Airplane	Farm Equip.	Pass. Tubes	Truck & Bus Tubes	Tire NSPF Tubes	Farm Tubes
1987													
January	2,625	247	106	56	298	168	187	2	28	301	140	328	29
February	2,440	320	146	121	323	152	169	6	35	416	137	413	70
March	3,345	334	161	107	424	173	166	2	43	292	155	441	45
CUMULATIVE	8,411	902	413	284	1,045	493	521	10	106	1,008	432	1,182	145
April	2,961	318	167	112	352	167	143	3	50	285	136	422	32
May	3,095	385	169	76	339	159	160	6	52	364	169	388	34
June	3,345	317	141	89	395	192	168	3	81	253	153	407	71
July	3,266	290	134	53	433	123	105	2	49	255	157	439	48
August	2,793	265	105	64	387	148	124	2	87	545	144	415	78
September	2,734	236	100	50	358	146	84	2	71	284	93	455	22
October	2,866	243	117	41	346	125	120	3	51	461	122	406	59
November	2,816	197	138	49	347	138	131	2	49	432	123	428	52
December	2,956	178	195	41	389	127	150	2	95	459	187	397	130
ANNUAL	35,242	3,331	1,679	860	4,391	1,817	1,707	37	691	4,346	1,716	4,939	671
1988													
January	2,653	154	129	51	320	138	195	3	80	415	177	428	64
February	2,923	180	125	53	369	117	122	2	79	469	169	483	101
March	3,151	185	168	55	398	188	170	2	181	547	253	491	84
CUMULATIVE	8,727	519	422	159	1,087	443	487	8	341	1,431	599	1,401	250
April													
May													
June													
July													
August													
September													
October													
November													
December													
% Change Month	7.8	2.8	34.4	3.8	7.9	60.7	39.3	.0	129.1	16.6	49.7	1.7	-16.8
% Change Month 88 vs. 87	-5.8	-44.6	4.3	-48.6	-6.1	8.7	2.4	.0	320.9	87.3	63.2	11.3	86.7
% Change Cumulative	3.8	-42.5	2.2	-44.0	4.0	-10.1	-6.5	-20.0	221.7	42.0	38.7	18.5	72.4

Figures may not add due to rounding. For further details on Imports please refer to RMA 500 Report.

RUBBER MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION'S MONTHLY TIRE AND INNER TUBES REPORT

The procedures used by the Management Information Services (MIS) of RMA to compile this data are reviewed at least annually by the RMA Tire Statistical Committee. Committee members represent tire producing companies, both domestic and foreign, which participate in the submission of their monthly tire data to RMA for compilation into an aggregate report. The categories selected for presentation are based upon those developed by the Committee and in many instances upon classifications listed in the Tire and Rim Association's Yearbook.

Descriptions for the categories used in this report:

PASSENGER TIRES: all sizes and types of tires designed for standard highway passenger car service. It also includes off-highway passenger service tires such as racing car and dune buggy tires.

TRUCK & BUS TIRES: all sizes and types of tires which are designated as light, medium, dual, heavy, and large off-the-road truck tires.

MOBILE HOME TIRES: all tires designed solely for use in the transportation of permanent or temporary buildings, with wheel attached, from factory to site or site to site.

TRACTOR IMPLEMENT TIRES: steering and drive wheel tires used on tractors in field service or harvesting equipment. This includes combines, cane and rice field tires, log-skidder tires, and those used on farm implement vehicles.

INDUSTRIAL & UTILITY TIRES: all tires used for slow speed industrial vehicles and counterbalanced fork-lift trucks, recreational, boat, baggage, sports and special type trailer tires, as well as tires used on mining cars, lumber yard straddle trucks, wheel barrows, and garden tractors. This category includes swamp buggy, terra, snowmobile, mini-bike, and Go-Kart tires.

INNER TUBES: all inner tubes regardless of the type of tire for which they were manufactured. Only shipments are included in this report.

Descriptions for the various column headings used in this report:

Original Equipment: shipments to vehicle manufacturers for their original equipment.

Replacement: shipments destined for the domestic replacement market.

Export: shipments to points outside the United States by the participants, and as such, will differ from the export figures released by the U.S. government.

Production: units produced in domestic factories for the reporting period.

Inventory: stocks as of the last day of the reporting period covered.

Imports:

Data for imports are shown separately on this report; however, those of participating companies are reflected in all of the columns with the exception of production. Import data is from the Bureau of Census Report IM-145 derived from data from the Department of Commerce. The import data is listed by the seven digit TSUSA number (Tariff Schedules of the United States) and reflects both government and non-goverment imports from foreign countries into U.S. Customs territories.

The participants in this report include:

Armstrong Rubber Company, The
Bridgestone U.S.A., Inc.
Bridgestone Tire Manufacturing Inc., (Tennessee)
Carlisle Tire & Rubber Company, Carlisle Corporation
Continental Tire Corporation
Cooper Tire & Rubber Company
Cupples Company, Manufacturers
Denman Rubber Manufacturing Company
Dunlop Tire Corporation
Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, The
General Tire, Division of GenCorp
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, The
Hankook Tire America Corporation
Kelly-Springfield Tire Company
McCreary Tire & Rubber Company
Michelin Tire Corporation
Mohawk Rubber Company
Robbins Tire & Rubber Company, Inc.
Sumitomo Corporation of America
Toyo Tire (USA) Corporation
Uniroyal-Goodrich Tire Company, The
Yokohama Tire Corporation

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